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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : CINCSO FOR POLAD, Amembassy TEGUCIGALPA, SAN SALVADOR,
MANAGUA, SAN JOSE, DOD

FROM : Amembassy GUATEMALA

DATE: December 2, 1967

SUBJECT: Weekly Internal Security Report: 11/24-30/67

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
DEC 5 - 1967

REF :

Summary and Conclusions

1. The Herrera "kidnap" case was still making news with assorted charges and denials about police implication, and there were a number of miscellaneous violent incidents with political overtones, but from all appearances the insurgents failed to initiate any significant incidents.

2. The Herrera Dori6n case was the big news, but there is no really hard information yet as to what really occurred. [REDACTED] Herrera, however, has been returned to his family.

3. Early speculation was that the FAR was responsible but they denied being implicated. Suspicion then fell on the far Right, particularly on MANO leader Raul LORENZANA, and some journalists who speculated in this vein have received threatening MANO leaflets signed by him. The case is further complicated by the fact that the police, who, according to press reports on November 25, had liberated Herrera from a house in Jalapa, are now themselves suspect and 4 police officers, as well as 2 former senior military officers, and numerous civilians have been arrested. The last chapter of this saga was an announcement by National Police Chief Col. SOSA Avila that the captured policemen were in fact double agents who had managed to infiltrate the gang of kidnappers. The real story may never be known.

4. The charges of police implication, however, have inspired several editorialists. Vice President/journalist MARROQUIN Rojas took a surprisingly reasonable tack and called for continued confidence in the

Enclosure: List of Incidents

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police, claiming that the chiefs were honest and could not be expected to always control all the thousands under them. Alvaro CONTRERAS, in PRENSA LIBRE, however, took a somewhat less charitable position, noting that even when police were guilty of wrongdoing, their chiefs usually denied it, and that a spirit of doubt and lack of confidence in the police would linger for some time. He closed his editorial by saying: "There is something rotten not only in Denmark, but in the most unsuspected places."

5. Other disturbing acts of violence of political significance include the kidnapping, beating, and subsequent release of Eustaquio PAZ Muralles, a DCG campesino organizer. He was visiting Los Amates in the Department of Izabal when he was attacked. In addition, wealthy industrialist Jaime Oswaldo RECINOS Garcia was shot to death in Santa Catarina Pinula. Press reports that he had been recently threatened. Also, a policeman who had been assigned to guard him was wounded. It is not known who was behind either case.

6. There was a bombing in the capital in front of the home of Adolfo DRAGO in Zone 1. He and one other person who was near him were burned. The case may be one of mistaken identity since the house of the Army G-2 has a very similar address and may have been the intended target.

7. Some light was shed on the discovery in Totonicapan of the 3 bodies described in the press as guerrillas (Guatemala A-191). Two have now been identified in the press as Marcial Donis Monterroso and Pablo RIVAS Montenegro, who had both been reported kidnapped on November 17 by a machinegun-wielding gang [REDACTED]

8. There were also 2 more fatal shootings and 6 more assassinated corpses were located in various locations.

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LIST OF INCIDENTS

- Nov. 24 - The 3 bodies described as being guerrillas, which were found in Alasca, Dept. Totonicapan, identified. Two, Marcial Donis Monterroso and Pablo Rivas Montenegro, were reported as having been captured by machinegun-wielding gang November 17 in the capital. [REDACTED]
- 24 - Two unidentified bodies, both bearing gunshot wounds, found on banks of River Madre Vieja, Escuintla. No political motive known.
- 25 - Body of Hilario Felipe Yaque found shot to death on road from San Luis Jilotepeque to Ipala, Dept. Jalapa.
- 25 - Armed band entered home of Feliciano Carrera and Olga Alicia Guerra Madrid, in Nueva Concepcion, Tiquisate, and shot them dead. No political motive known.
- 25 - Two unidentified bodies found at Concepcion Las Minas, Dept. Santa Rosa. They showed signs of having been tortured and they had been shot.
- 25 - DCG leader, Eustaquio Paz Muralles, party under-secretary for campesino affairs kidnapped by submachine gun-armed men in Los Amates, Dept. Izabal. He was released some hours later, badly beaten. His attackers are still unidentified.
- 25 - Jose Valentin Ortiz, inspector for Union bus lines, who had been reportedly kidnapped on October 30, released unharmed. Motive for kidnapping and release unknown.
- 26 - Human skull found 11 kilometers from capital on El Salvador road 150 meters from where decapitated body found November 16 (Guatemala A-191). No motive for killing known.
- 26 - Industrialist Jaime Oswaldo Racinos Garcia shot and killed and a military policeman assigned to guard him (he had been threatened) badly wounded in Santa Catarina Pinula, Dept. Guatemala.
- 27 - Unidentified body shot to death located in Nueva Concepcion, Dept. Escuintla. No motive known.
- 28 - Three members of gang accused of committing a variety of thefts and assaults in Izapa area, Dept. Escuintla, arrested. They were identified as Rafael Jimenez Reyes, Raul Portillo Flores and Gumercindo Culajay Arias. The latter was described by press as being member of National Police.

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Nov. 29 - Flyer signed MANO c. stated threatening reporters who linked MANO's name to Herrera kidnapping.

29 - Bomb thrown into house of Adolfo Drago in Zone 1. He and one other person badly burned and property damage considerable. No political motive known. Bomb may have been intended for Army G-2 who has similar address.

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